



## FLIGHT LOG

ACTING GOVERNOR RICHARD J. CODEY



COMMISSIONER JACK LETTIERE



SUMMER 2005, No. 5

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State holds hearings  
at Alexandria and Spitfire

Alexandria Field Airport in Hunterdon County and Spitfire Aerodrome Airport in Salem County are one step closer to being permanently preserved following public hearings that were held June 8 and 9 on the state's purchase of development rights.

According to NJDOT Aeronautics Director Tom Thatcher, the purchases can take place before the end of the year. "We were very pleased at the positive public opinion that we heard at these meetings," he said. Thatcher chaired the hearings.

Alexandria and Spitfire are part of New Jersey's "core system" of airports that base more than 90 percent of the state's more than 4,200 active general aviation aircraft. NJDOT Commissioner Jack Lettiere has expressed the state's commitment to preserving key segments of New Jersey's public use infrastructure. Since 1983, 14 public use airports have closed. The next step is final contract review and approvals.

The 76-acre Alexandria contract is for \$1.18 million; the 47-acre Spitfire Aerodrome for \$428,000. This is the first time two airports are going through the preservation process simultaneously. William Fritsche and Linda Fritsche-Castner are the owners of Alexandria and Jack and Nadine Fetsco own Spitfire.

The airports base 130 aircraft. Alexandria Field is one of the few privately owned airports in the state that has a cross-wind runway. Spitfire Aerodrome is noted for both its helicopter flight training and helicopter repair and rehabilitation work. Built in 1983, it was the last new public use airport built in New Jersey.

"New Jersey has become, far and away, the national model for developing and implementing policies and practices to help preserve and protect general aviation infrastructure," said Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Vice President Roger Cohen in written testimony for both hearings.

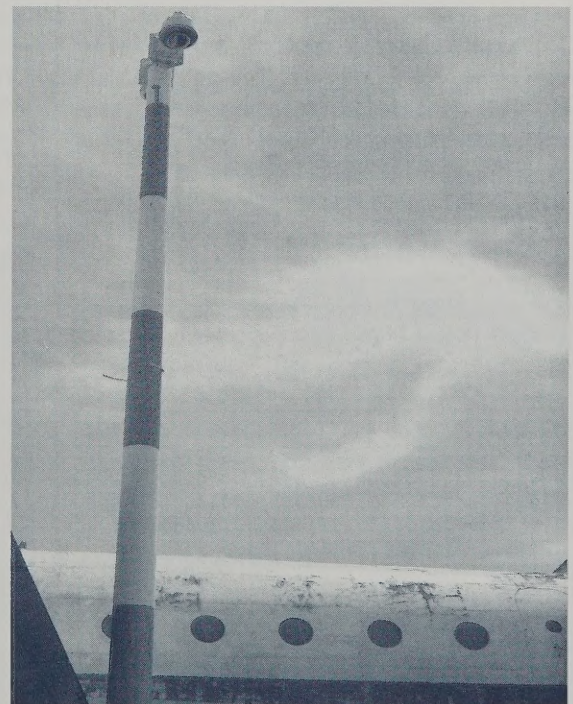
Three airports  
to launch video  
surveillance

Aeroflex-Andover, Greenwood Lake and South Jersey Regional airports have been targeted for phase one of the new Airport Security Video Surveillance (ASVS) system in New Jersey. The statewide initiative to integrate video surveillance cameras at public use general aviation airports will provide additional security post 9/11.

Airport managers agree that more security is better. Aeroflex-Andover Manager John Flyntz of the New Jersey Forest Fire Service is definite about the system's benefit.

"We're in a unique position here," said Flyntz. "We are inside Kittatinny State Park so we have the NJ Park Rangers in addition to the Andover Police Department on patrol. We are also the base for the Huey helicopter for fire fighting. The important thing is that

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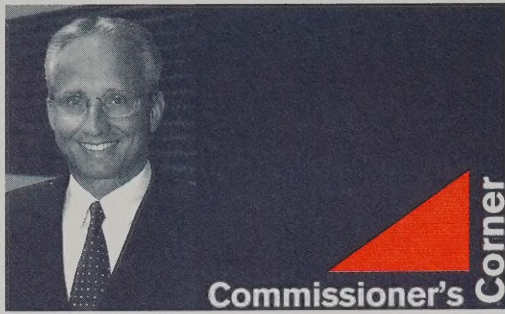


Video surveillance camera at Greenwood Lake Airport in West Milford

Report Suspicious or  
Unauthorized Activity

1-866-GA-SECURE  
AOPA AIRPORT WATCH





From Commissioner Jack Lettiere

## Statewide security and general aviation

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And, don't forget to carry the emergency contact numbers (found in this issue) in your wallet and flight kit.

The cornerstone of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association Airport Watch program, for which NJDOT has provided signs for general airports, is the reporting of suspicious items and activities by calling 1-866-GA-SECURE. It's the right thing to do.

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Acting Governor of New Jersey

Jack Lettiere,  
Commissioner of Transportation

Thomas P. Thatcher, Director  
Division of Aeronautics  
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# Trenton-Mercer stages full scale drill



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medical emergency units from Ewing, Hopewell, Lawrence and Mercer County responded to the alarm and set up a triage to treat and transport victims whose symptoms ranged from severe bleeding and burns, to a heart attack, dementia and death.

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Airport and NJDOT staff, state, county and local government and law enforcement officials, representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the FAA also participated.

Volunteers from Hightstown High School's Junior American Red Cross Club, NJDOT and other state agencies played the role of victims, family and friends of the victims and members of the media.

# Teterboro Hall of Fame adds four members

The Teterboro Airport Hall of Fame added four new members during its 32nd Annual Induction Dinner in May. They are General Richard Cosgrove, Anthony DiStefano, Colonel Earl W. Estelle and Major General Richard F. Gillis.

Many of New Jersey's outstanding contributions on the war on terror are attributed to **General Cosgrove** who retired as the New Jersey Air National Guard Commander in 2002. All the National Guard units from New Jersey serving here and in the Middle East reported to him.

Following the 9/11 attack, the Vietnam veteran was credited with the combat readiness of New Jersey's 177th Fighter Wing that took to the skies to patrol the New York-New Jersey metropolitan airways and the 108th Air Refueling Wing that prepared to go to Afghanistan.

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The educator also pioneered the Aviation Career Awareness Program and helped organize Teterboro's Civil Air Patrol, Air Explorers and Air Force Association. He initiated cooperative college degrees with Thomas A. Edison State and Bergen Community colleges.

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Estelle learned to fly at Teterboro in 1930. After joining the Air National Guard based at Newark Airport, he entered service in World War II in 1940 where he helped initiate the airlift between India and the southwest Pacific area, flying 55 missions over the legendary "Hump". He commanded 3,500 ground personnel, 500 pilots and more than 100 aircraft.

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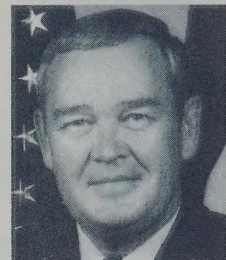
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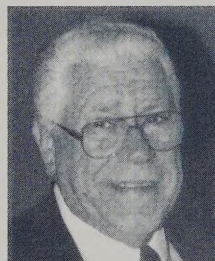
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Estelle



Gillis



DiStefano



Cosgrove

Cut Out and Save

## Aviation Emergency Protocol - 1

Please notify the following agencies in this order:

Local police and EMS	<b>911</b>
NJDOT Aeronautics	
Business hours	<b>609-530-2900/2911</b>
After hours*	<b>609-882-2000</b>
FAA via Millville FSS	<b>800-223-0140</b>
NTSB	<b>973-334-6420</b>
NJ State Police	<b>609-882-2000</b>

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See Back Page for Other Numbers



# Gimello names key issues: closures, safety, streamlining

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"Airport closures are the greatest single threat to general aviation in the United States," Gimello told the audience

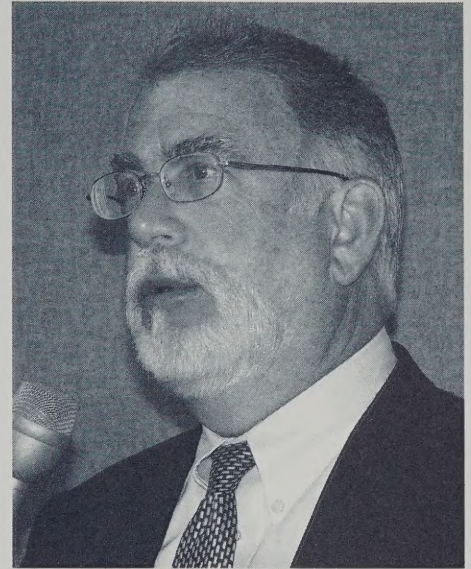
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The Aviation Conference was sponsored by the Mid Atlantic Aviation Coalition. This year's conference was held at the Newark-Liberty International Airport in the main hall of the airport's restored historic Terminal Building 1.



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Two New Jersey fire safety researchers earned a U.S. patent for an invention that will provide earlier detection of fires in aircraft cargo holds.

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They also developed a combustion test sample for testing cargo compartment fire/smoke detectors. This test sample generates, heat, smoke and gases – the same mixture of combustion products that would typify a cargo compartment fire under flaming or smoldering conditions.

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said Pat Lewis, FAA program director, Airport and Aircraft Safety Research & Development Division.

"Their efforts will enhance the safety of aircraft cargo compartments, and will provide long-term benefits to aviation safety, overall."

Fires in aircraft cargo are difficult to detect before they reach the stage where they endanger the aircraft. The fires can begin very slowly, generating gases with little or no flames, heat or visible smoke. Most current cargo fire detectors are optical systems. They detect smoke, but by the time smoke is generated, the fire has advanced and the threat to the aircraft is greater.

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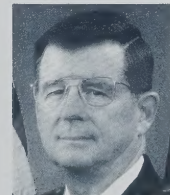
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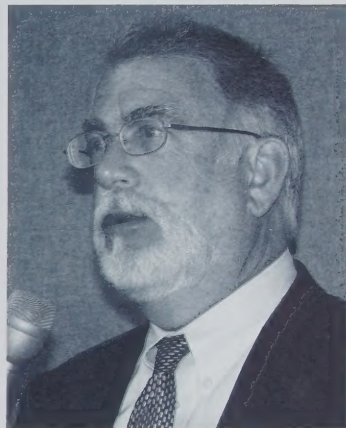
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# Visit New Jersey's flight museums this summer

A good way to learn New Jersey's flight history is to visit one of the state's many museums stocked with aviation memorabilia. Some have interactive displays or educational programs. Fly-in or drive-in and bring the family.

If you're in the northern part of the state, you may want to head south for a change of pace; likewise those in the south may want to head north to explore another area. Here are samplings of the museums and their contact information, from Bergen County to Burlington, Cumberland and Cape May counties.

**Suit up and fly Navy.** Be a "top gun" at the Naval Air flight simulation center, New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame at Teterboro Airport in Bergen County. There's also a full-scale mockup of four stations aboard the USS Olson Vickers, where you can join the crew, sit in on a briefing and fly the mission.

The museum, open from Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., has exhibits dedicated to preserving New Jersey's aviation history that include airplanes, helicopters, piston, jet and rocket engines, a satellite and astronaut uniforms. Information is available on their Web site <http://www.njahof.org/> or by phone 201.288.6344.

**Turn a balloon into a jet engine.** Or, learn about re-entry problems, jet engines and controls at the Lumberton (Burlington County) Air Victory Museum. "Hands on" educational classes are held every other Saturday for those more than six years old from 10 a.m. to noon.

Located at South Jersey Regional Airport, the museum houses engines, uniforms and air memorabilia from 1903 through today. There's a wind tunnel built under the supervision of the Wright Brothers and the flight suit of Major Fred Stankovich, who flew the Number 2



Republic P-47B  
USAF Museum Photo Archives

The P-47 Thunderbolt (the "Jug"), one of the most famous fighter planes of World War II, made its first flight on May 6, 1941. More than 1,500 pilots received advanced fighter training in the Thunderbolt and thousands of soldiers completed gunnery training at the Millville Army Air Field training grounds.

Skyhawk for the Blue Angels is on display.

View these displays from Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For group tours, classes and fees, contact the museum by e-mail [info@airvictorymuseum.org](mailto:info@airvictorymuseum.org), or phone 609.267.4488 or view their Web site [www.airvictorymuseum.org](http://www.airvictorymuseum.org)

**View the "Jug" training grounds.** For World War II history you'll want to see, visit Millville Army Airfield Museum at Millville Municipal Airport, Cumberland County that served as a training base for the P-47 Thunderbolt. Called the "Jug" it was known for its ruggedness, and its ability to absorb severe battle damage while still flying.

The museum at America's first defense airport is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

Contact the museum by e-mail at [museum@p47millville.org](mailto:museum@p47millville.org) or their Web site at [www.p47millville.org](http://www.p47millville.org) or phone 856.327.2347.

**Time travel to 1943.** Open seven days a week, the Naval Air Station Wildwood Foundation (NASW) Museum in Cape May, New Jersey's southernmost county, features World War II military aircraft, aircraft engines and artifacts. NASW's mission is to restore the wooden hangar #1 at the Cape May County Airport, Lower Township to honor the 41 Naval airmen who died while training there during the war.

Hold August 13 open for the annual drive-in/fly-in AirFest at the airport. The festivities will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a pancake breakfast and continue with other activities until 4:30 p.m. For information, send an e-mail to [aviationmuseum@Comcast.net](mailto:aviationmuseum@Comcast.net) or access their Web site [www.usnasw.org/](http://www.usnasw.org/) or call 609.886.8787.



New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Division of Aeronautics  
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# NEW JERSEY FLIGHT LOG

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## Mystery-Pix

Can you name this airport and identify what was being done there during World War II? Answer in next issue.

### Last issue's Mystery-Pix

Last issue's Mystery-Pix was of a unique experimental class flying-wing airplane that was built at Sky Manor Airport in the 1970s. The only two flights that we know of ended in emergency landings. The design was inspired from old magazine pictures of a 1930's flying wing airplane called the ARUP.

### This issue

This Mystery-Pix is a tough one, so here is a hint. This is one of several very large and important airports that were constructed in New Jersey to support the US war effort in World War II.

Cut Out and Save

#### Aviation Emergency Protocol - 2

Other helpful numbers:

Allentown FSDO*	610-264-2888
Philadelphia FSDO*	610-595-1500
Teterboro FSDO*	201-556-6600
NJDEP	877-927-6337
Report Suspicious Activity	866-GA-SECURE

\*Flight Standards District Office



Got an interesting New Jersey aviation picture? Send it to the NJ Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, P.O. Box 610 Trenton, NJ 08625-0610 for possible publication here.